GRAMMAR CAN BE FUN

By Munro Leaf

THIS IS AIN'T

You can't afford not to give your child this book!

GRAMMAR CAN BE FUN

Written and illustrated by

MUNRO LEAF

A picture-book with a point—good grammar without nagging. It settles "ain't" and "uh-huh" and "gimme" and "got" and a score of common errors by a simple, sure, painless and humorous process. Irresistibly amusing drawings and captions make clear such things as the difference between can and may and the reason why one does not say "he done it" or "she come."

Parents faced with the necessity of dealing with grammatical lapses acquired by their offspring from the neighbor's children, will rejoice in this veritable "grammar without tears." Teachers will find it an indispensable ally, and children will grow fond of the original and lovable pictures and absorb their lesson with chuckles of glee.

Munro Leaf's "can be fun" books—*Grammar, Manners, Health, Safety, Arithmetic, Geography, History, Reading* and *Science*—are fun-giving, standard equipment in the schools, libraries, and homes of America. His wonderful sense of humor, knowledge of children, and uncanny sense of what children need and like in their reading, sparkle on every page.

GRAMMAR CAN BE FUN

Words and Pictures

By MUNRO LEAF

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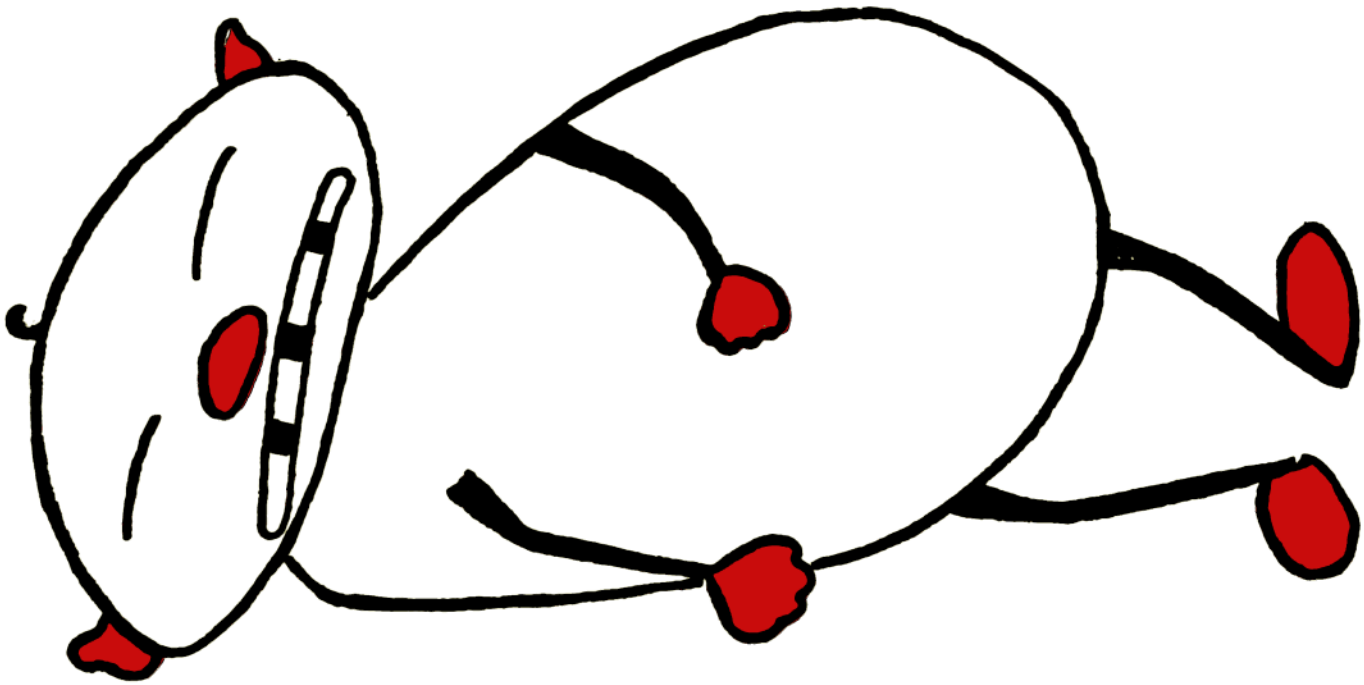


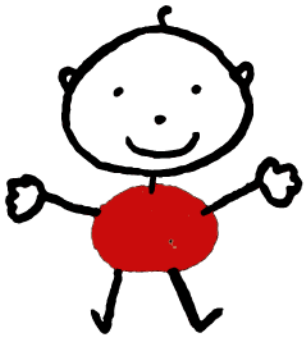
THIS IS AIN'T

Now you see why no one even likes to hear his name.

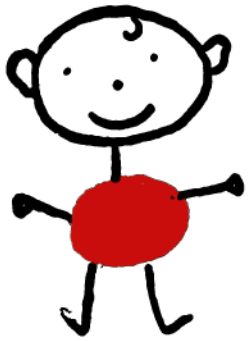
Never say AIN'T.

That is being just as lazy as he is.

Say——



I AM NOT



YOU ARE NOT

HE

or

SHE

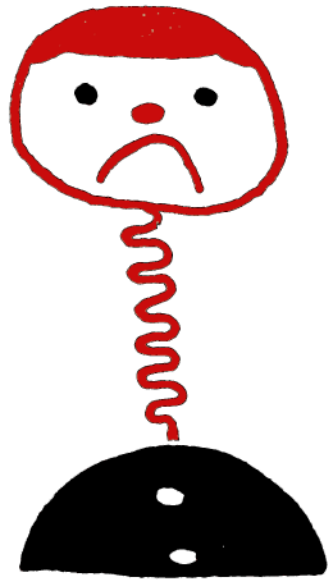
IS NOT

THEY

ARE NOT

THE WOBBLY NECKS

UH-HUH



UN-UN

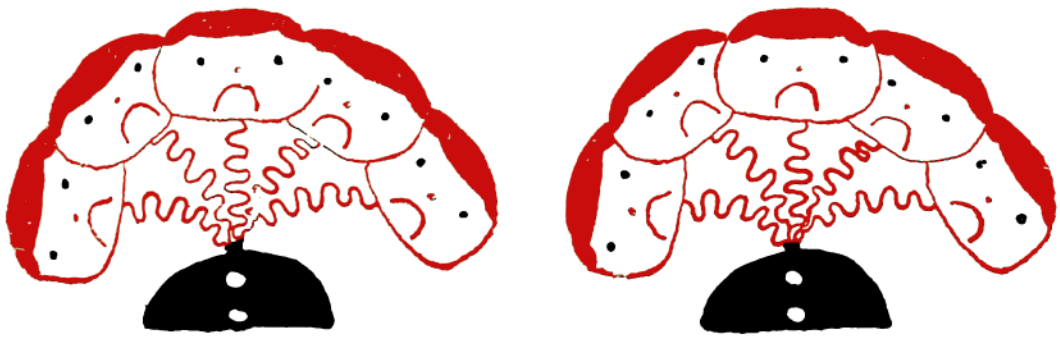
Poor Wobbly Necks! They shake their heads and nod their heads and still no one knows what they want to say.

Some one says, "Would you like to go?" and they shout

UH-HUH and UN-UN

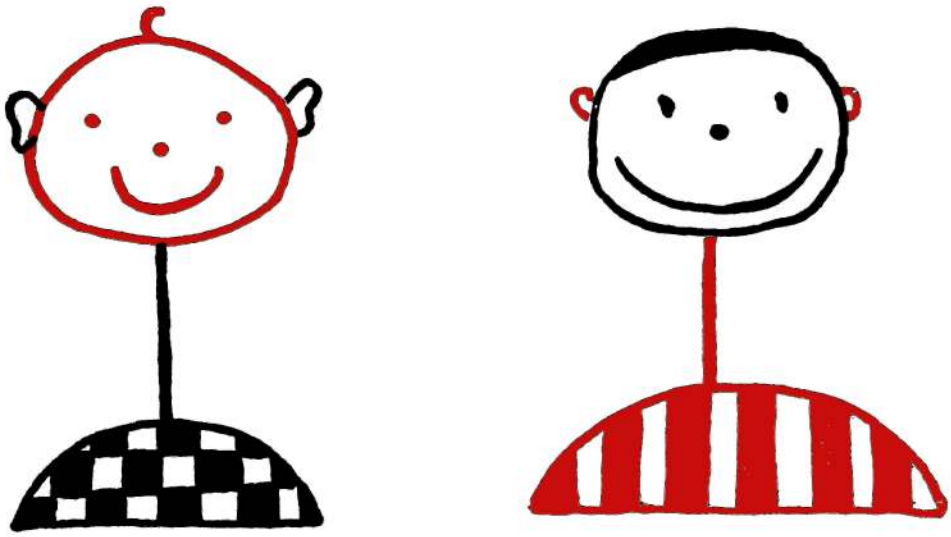
then

Wiggle and Wiggle and Wiggle.



But no one knows what they mean.

While—



YES and NO

Are always happy.

Everybody knows

what THEY mean

and

THEY don't have to

wiggle their

necks

at

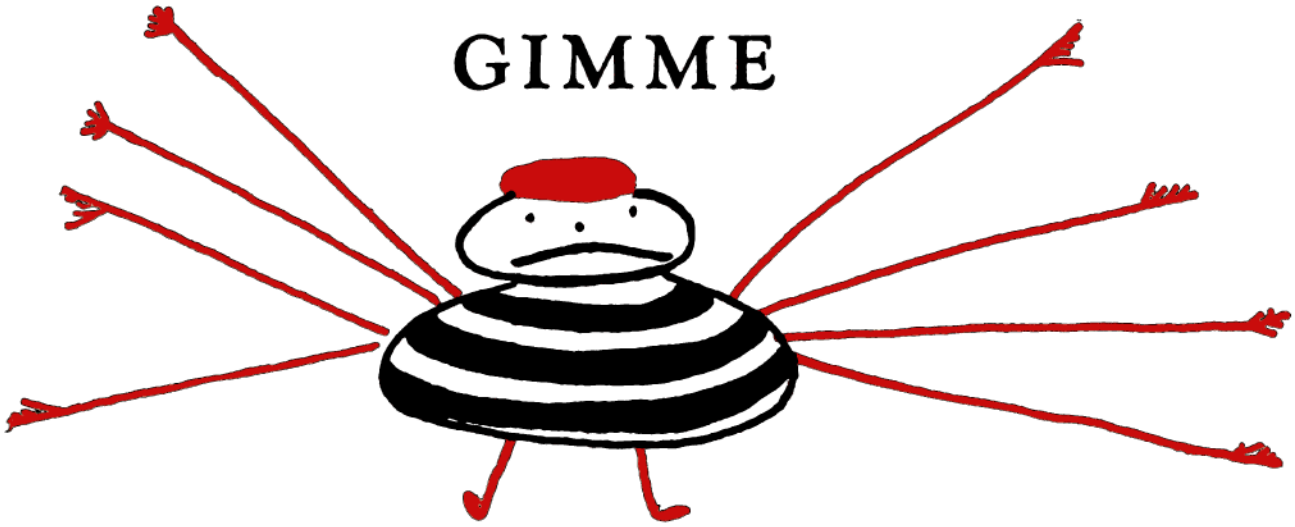
all.

And this is one of the most awful little creatures of all.

YEAH

PLEASE LET'S NEVER HEAR HIM AGAIN!

This is
GIMME



Doesn't he look like a spider?

All day long he shouts
GIMME this, GIMME that
and grabs with all those hands.
If he should say
PLEASE GIVE ME
he would be much nicer and
he wouldn't look so queer.

GIMME has two little sisters who are just as bad as he is.

They are

GONNA and WANNA

GONNA just will not say what she should, which is GOING TO

WANNA just will not say what she should, which is WANT TO

Don't YOU be like

GONNA GIMME or WANNA

Poor Old

Don't you feel sorry for poor old ? He gets so lonely.

So many children leave him out when they talk about things that are fun—like

PLAYIN—

DANCIN—

RUNNIN—

FISHIN—

WHERE IS POOR

?

Let's always take

along too.

PLAYIN

DANCIN

RUNNIN

and

FISHIN

He has such a good time!

CAN

This is CAN

He is able to do things. That means he is old enough, or big enough, or strong enough to do them.

This is MAY

She is polite and asks when she wants to do things.

MAY

You would not say

Mother, CAN I have an apple?

Everybody knows that you are old enough, and big enough, and strong enough to have an apple.

You mean to say

Mother, MAY I have an apple?

and

I

will

tell

you

a

secret.

If you say PLEASE when you say MAY , you will probably get what you want more quickly.

LY (say it LEE)

This is LY the China Boy

who likes action and movement of any kind.

If you walk or run, dance or sing, all of those take action.

That is doing things and that is what LY likes.

So he comes along.

I walk slowLY not slow.

I run quickLY not quick.

I dance lightLY not light.

I sing loudLY not loud.

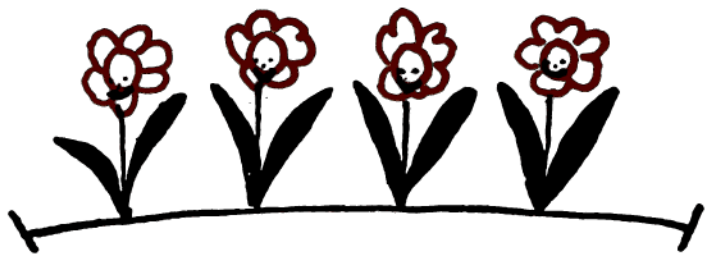
This is all about a very messy creature and her name is GOT.

Here she is.

And I'll tell you what she is. She is a weed that grows in sentences, if you don't take care of them.

Good sentences are like

good gardens.



There is plenty of room for

the words that belong there

like

I HAVE A BALL

But——

When a messy word like

grows there, everything is jumbled.

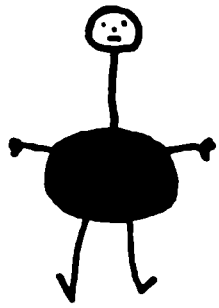
In sentences

and

in gardens

so watch your sentences and keep

away.

This  is NOT

Sometimes people say NOT

so quickly it is just N'T

like haveN'T

This is NO

They are both nice, but

they should not get

together in the same

sentence.

They push and shove each

other—

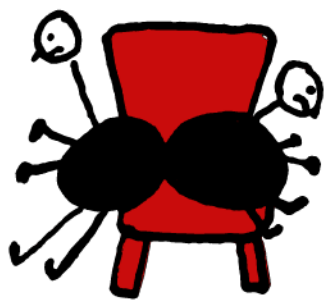
just as they would if

they tried to sit in

the same chair.

This way.

I do NOT have NO books.



I doN'T want NO apple.

But——

If you let each one have

a sentence of his own,

it is fine, and they are

both happy.

h a v e N O b o o k s .

doN'T want an apple.

NOW

We shall go very

slowLY.

Everybody can DO THINGS

and

Everybody can HAVE THINGS

DONE TO HIM.

Now

When we DO THINGS

we are called

I

HE

SHE

THEY

this way

I hit the ball.

HE hit the ball.

SHE hit the ball.

That is DOING THINGS.

When we HAVE THINGS DONE TO US

we are called

ME

HIM

HER

THEM

this way

The ball hit ME.

The ball hit HIM.

The ball hit HER.

That is HAVING THINGS DONE TO US.

Now think of us this way—
Are we DOING THINGS, or are
we HAVING THINGS DONE TO US?

and

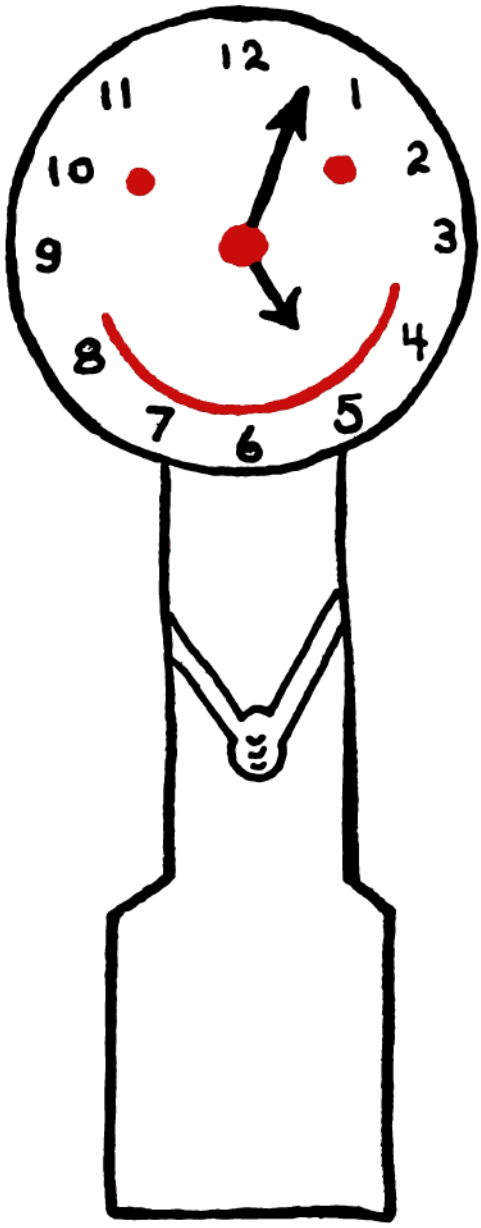
you will always know which
we are called.

I see HER.

SHE sees ME.

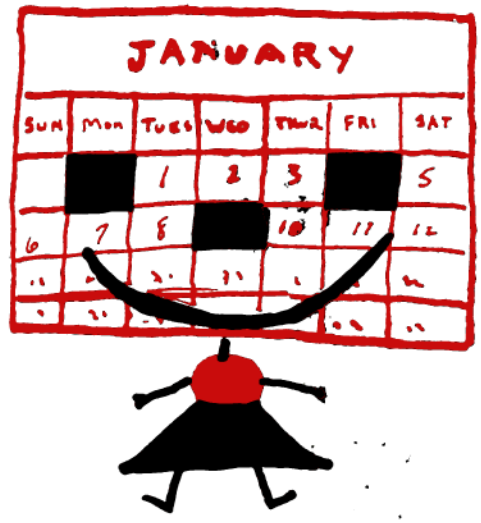
HE chased THEM.

THEY chased HIM.



Do you know why old Mr. Clock and Mrs. Calendar are laughing so?

They are just waiting to see you all mixed up when you try to say the right word for what happened at some other time.



You say now I SING.

That is easy.

But

If you did it yesterday,

WHAT do you say

And if you have finished singing—WHAT do you say

You should say

Now I SING.

Some time ago

I SANG.

And if you have finished,

you say

I HAVE SUNG.

When I am thirsty

I DRINK WATER.

Some time ago

I DRANK WATER

and when I have finished

I HAVE DRUNK WATER.

If I am hungry

I EAT food.

Some time ago

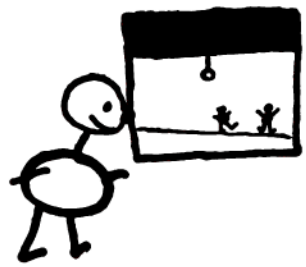
I ATE FOOD

and when I have finished

I HAVE EATEN food.

If I look out of the window

I SEE people.

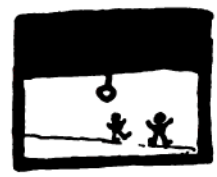


Some time ago

I SAW people

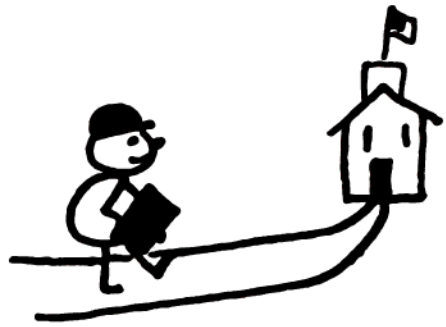
and when I have finished

I HAVE SEEN people.



In the morning

I GO to school.

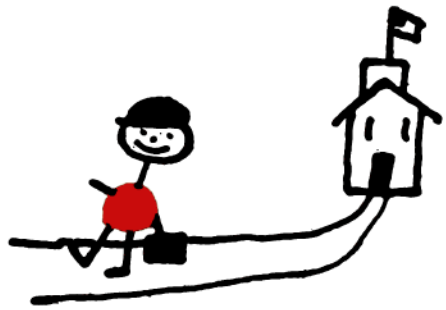


Some time ago

I WENT to school

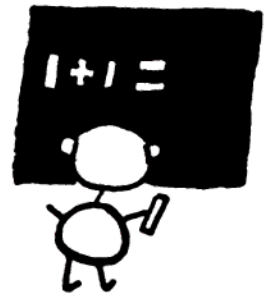
and when I have finished

I HAVE GONE to school.



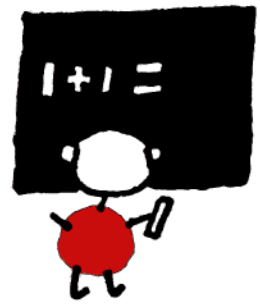
In school

I DO arithmetic.



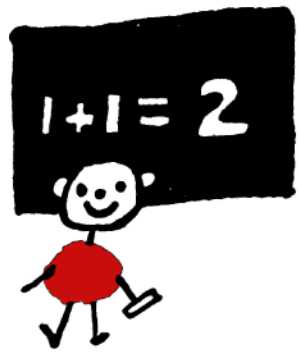
Some time ago

I DID arithmetic.

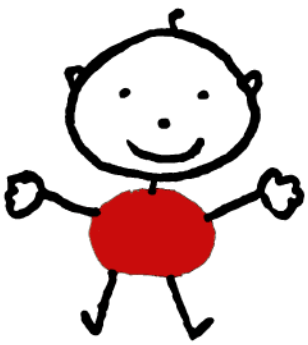


When I have finished

I HAVE DONE arithmetic.



DO is a word that mixes us up another way—that is, when we use it with NOT and say it quickly, DON'T.

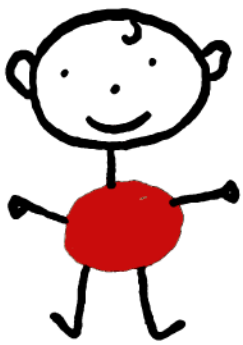


We say

I DO NOT

or quickly I DON'T

and we say

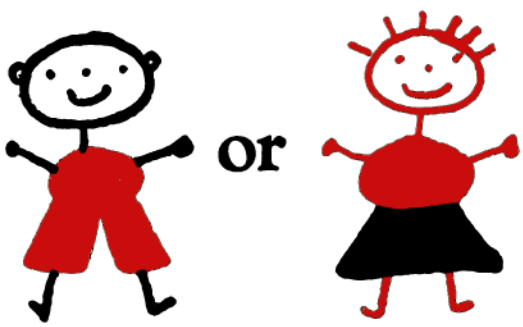


YOU DO NOT

or quickly YOU DON'T.

But we say

HE SHE



DOES NOT.

Never, Never

HE or SHE DON'T.

When I am sleepy

I LIE in bed.

Some time ago

I LAY in bed.

When I have finished

I HAVE LAIN in bed.

If I have read my book

I LAY it there.

Some time ago

I LAID it there.

When I have finished

I HAVE LAID it there.

Do those two get you mixed?

Well, remember that

IF
you stretch
yourself out

you
LIE down.

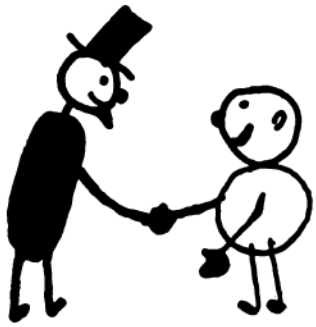
Some time ago
you LAY
down.
And when finished
you HAVE LAIN
down.

IF
you put
something else
somewhere

you
LAY it there.

Some time ago
you LAID it
there.
And when finished
you HAVE LAID
it there.

If someone says,



How do you feel?

You say

I feel WELL or ILL

not

I feel GOOD or BAD.

That is what you say if you mean that you behave yourself or are naughty.

And that is not what he wants to know.

THESE NEXT

PAGES HAVE

MISTAKES

I MAKE

AND

THE PICTURES

ARE DRAWN

BY